



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P1377WOD		FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/GB2005/001017	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.03.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 18.03.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. B05D7/24			
Applicant THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE et al.			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 3 sheets, as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 17.01.2006		Date of completion of this report 21.06.2006	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Bjola, B Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2196 	

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/GB2005/001017

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements* of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-20 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-20 received on 20.01.2008 with letter of 17.01.2008

Drawings, Sheets

1/2, 2/2 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 21
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-20
	No: Claims	-
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-20
	No: Claims	-
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-20
	No: Claims	-

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

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IAP9/Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 SEP 2006

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To Item V:

- 1.a WO-A-03/090939 (D2 see especially pg. 21, ln. 5-16; pg. 31, ln. 14; pg. 34, ln. 20 and 30; Cls. 1, 17, and 26), considered as closest prior art to the present application, discloses a method for depositing a polymeric material onto a substrate, said method comprising introducing a monomeric material in a gaseous state into a plasma deposition chamber, igniting a glow discharge within said chamber, and applying a voltage as a pulsed field for a sufficient period of time to allow a polymeric layer to form on the surface of the substrate.
- 1.b According to the example 1 of D2,
- the plasma deposition chamber has a volume of 0.3 m^3 ;
 - the pulsed field is applied at a power of 2200 or 3200 W/ m^3 .
- 1.c The present Claim 1 discloses alternatively to D2 that:
- the plasma deposition chamber has a volume of at least 0.5 m^3 ;
 - the pulsed field is applied at a power of from 0.001 to 500W/ m^3 .
- 1.d The technical problem to be solved by the present claim 1 is to provide a method according to point 1.a supra and which can be applied in larger scale units and in a way which allows to preserve the majority of the grafted functional groups by employing low power density plasma.
- 1.e This technical problem is solved by the applicant according to the feature mentioned under point 1.c supra.
- 1.f It is obvious that in this case the prior art leads the skilled reader away from the procedure proposed by the present Claim 1, whose subject-matter should be thus considered as inventive (Art. 33(3) PCT; see also the PCT International Search and Preliminary Examination Guidelines, 13.14(g)).
- 1.g A similar reasoning applies for demonstrating the presence of an inventive step for the subject-matter of the corresponding apparatus claim.

To Item VIII:

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2. The description should be brought in line with the claims (Art. 6 PCT).